

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (new): A laminated coil comprising:

a laminated body;

via holes formed in a lamination direction of said laminated body;

conductors disposed on laminating surfaces of the laminated body and fixed end portions of which are connected thereto by the via holes; and

a coil wound in a direction that is substantially perpendicular to the lamination direction; wherein

the via holes are disposed in each ceramic layer constituting the laminated body and define through-holes, each being filled with a conductor material and arranged along a row in the lamination direction; and

in each of the through-holes, a difference between a diameter in an axial direction of the coil on an opening surface of one opening of the ceramic layer and a diameter in the axial direction of the coil on an opening surface of another opening is smaller than a difference between a diameter in a direction that is substantially perpendicular to the axial direction of the coil on the opening surface of said one opening of the ceramic layer and a diameter in a direction that is substantially perpendicular to the axial direction of the coil on the opening surface of said another opening.

Claim 5 (new): A laminated coil as claimed in claim 4, wherein each of the through-holes has a substantially oval flat shape and a short-axis direction corresponds with the axial direction of the coil.

Claim 6 (new): A laminated coil as claimed in claim 4, wherein the laminated coil defines a chip inductor.

Claim 7 (new): A laminated coil as claimed in claim 4, wherein the conductors on the laminating surfaces of the laminated body are substantially belt-shaped.

Claim 8 (new): A laminated coil as claimed in claim 4, wherein the conductors are defined by at least one conductor layer.

Claim 9 (new): A laminated coil as claimed in claim 4, wherein the conductors are defined by at least three conductor layers.

Claim 10 (new): A laminated coil as claimed in claim 4, wherein each of the through-holes has an upper opening having a substantially oval flat shape and a lower opening having a substantially round flat shape.

Claim 11 (new): A laminated coil as claimed in claim 4, wherein each of the through-holes has an upper opening having a substantially oval flat shape and a lower opening having a substantially oval flat shape.

Claim 12 (new): A laminated coil as claimed in claim 4, wherein each of the through-holes has a first inner portion corresponding to the axial direction of the coil having a greater angle of inclination than a second inner portion corresponding to the direction that is substantially perpendicular to both the axial direction of the coil and the lamination direction of the laminated body.

Claim 13 (new): A laminated coil as claimed in claim 4, wherein two coils are provided in parallel in the laminated body.

Claim 14 (new): A laminated coil as claimed in claim 13, wherein the laminated coil defines one of a chip inductor, a transformer and a common mode choke coil.

Claim 15 (new): A method for producing a laminated coil, comprising the steps of: forming a plurality of ceramic green sheets; forming conductors on surfaces of the ceramic green sheets; and laminating the plurality of ceramic green sheets in a lamination direction to form a laminated body;

forming via holes in the ceramic green sheets such that in each of the through-holes, a difference between a diameter in an axial direction of the coil on an opening surface of one opening of the ceramic layer and a diameter in the axial direction of the coil on an opening surface of another opening is smaller than a difference between a diameter in a direction that is substantially perpendicular to the axial direction of the coil on the opening surface of said one opening of the ceramic layer and a diameter in a direction that is substantially perpendicular to the axial direction of the coil on the opening surface of said another opening; and

after through-holes have been formed, filling the through-holes with a conductor material so as to form a coil wound in a direction that is substantially perpendicular to the lamination direction.

Claim 16 (new): The method according to claim 15, wherein the through holes are formed via laser radiation.

Claim 17 (new): The method according to claim 16, wherein an energy distribution of laser light is adjusted during the laser radiation such that each of the through holes has an upper opening having a substantially oval flat shape and a lower opening having a substantially round flat shape.

Claim 18 (new): The method according to claim 16, wherein an energy distribution of laser light is adjusted during the laser radiation such that each of the through holes has a first inner portion corresponding to the axial direction of the coil having a greater angle of inclination than a second inner portion corresponding to the direction that is substantially perpendicular to both the axial direction of the coil and the lamination direction of the laminated body.

Claim 19 (new): The method according to claim 15, wherein each of the through holes is formed such that each of the through-holes has a substantially oval flat shape and a short-axis direction corresponds with the axial direction of the coil.

Claim 20 (new): The method according to claim 15, wherein each of the through holes is formed such that each of the through-holes has an upper opening having a substantially oval flat shape and a lower opening having a substantially oval flat shape.

Claim 21 (new): The method according to claim 15, wherein the laminated coil defines a chip inductor.

Claim 22 (new): The method according to claim 15, wherein two coils are formed in parallel in the laminated body.

Claim 23 (new): The method according to claim 22, wherein the laminated coil defines one of a chip inductor, a transformer and a common mode choke coil.